

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 211455
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY AF/E:GBEYER
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AF:RMMOOSE
S/S :JETHYDEN

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O 191905Z AUG 78 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 211455

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SO, US, MASS, OCLR

SUBJECT: REPLY TO SOMALI AIDE MEMOIRE

REF: STATE 210432 AND 210478 (NOTAL)

1. SOMALI AMBASSADOR ADDOU IN MEETING WITH UNDERSECRETARY
NEWSOM AND ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE AUGUST 16 LEFT
AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH HAS BEEN SENT TO MOGADISCIO AND
IS BEING SENT BY SEPTELS TO NAIROBI AND ADDIS ABABA.
AIDE MEMOIRE PROPOSES STEPS TO BE TAKEN TOWARD
BETTER UNDERSTANDING WITH NEIGHBORING KENYA AND ETHIOPIA.
ADDOU SAID PRESIDENT SIAD IS PREPARED TO INITIATE THIS
PROGRAM IF US WOULD SEND MILITARY SURVEY TEAM TO SOMALIA.
ADDOU ALSO REQUESTED THAT SIAD BE RECEIVED HERE IN
WASHINGTON BY THE PRESIDENT. IF SIAD DOES NOT RPT NOT
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RECEIVE A SATISFACTORY RESPONSE, ADDOU SAID, SIAD IS
PREPARED TO RESIGN AND TURN THE GOVERNMENT OVER TO
MILITARY OFFICERS WHO ARE LIKELY TO TRY TO RE-ESTABLISH
TIES WITH THE SOVIETS.

2. WE OUTLINED OPTIONS PRESENTED BY SIAD'S OFFER TO
SECRETARY WHO HAS APPROVED THE TALKING POINTS BELOW

AS A BASIS FOR OUR REPLY TO THE SOMALIS' LATEST DEMARCHE.

WE WOULD LIKE YOUR COMMENTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE ON THIS PROPOSED APPROACH, WITHOUT, OF COURSE, ANY DISCUSSION WITH HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. AS YOU WILL APPREHEND, ADDOU'S STATEMENT THAT SIAD WOULD CONSIDER RESIGNATION MUST BE HELD VERY CLOSELY.

3. QUOTE: TALKING POINTS FOR REPLY TO AMBASSADOR ADDOU

1. WE WELCOME PRESIDENT SIAD'S MESSAGE WITH ITS SUGGESTION OF MOVES TOWARD AN IMPROVEMENT IN SOMALIA'S RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS.

2. AS AMBASSADOR ADDOU KNOWS, IT IS NOT POSSIBLE FOR US TO SEND A MILITARY SURVEY TEAM AS LONG AS SOMALI'S NEIGHBORS FEEL THREATENED AND AS LONG AS ACTIVE INSURGENCY, SUPPORTED BY SOMALIA, CONTINUES IN THE OGADEN. OUR INTELLIGENCE SUGGESTS THAT SUCH ACTIVITY CONTINUES.

3. THE MOVES GENERAL SIAD SUGGESTS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY GO FAR TO RELIEVE TENSIONS IN THE HORN OF AFRICA AND TO REDUCE THE RATIONALE FOR FOREIGN TROOPS IN THE AREA. SUCH MOVES COULD BRING GENERAL SIAD THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF AFRICA AND THE REGION. WE REALIZE THEY WOULD REPRESENT MOVES REQUIRING POLITICAL COURAGE AND
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RISK ON HIS PART.

4. WE WOULD BE READY TO SHOW OUR SUPPORT FOR SUCH MOVES, BUT FEEL THAT DIRECT MOVES ON THE PART OF THE SOMALI GOVERNMENT ARE NECESSARY BEFORE WE CAN CONSIDER SENDING A MILITARY SURVEY TEAM.

5. SPECIFICALLY, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT GENERAL SIAD CONSIDER A MESSAGE TO THE KENYANS, INDICATING HIS WILLINGNESS TO SIGN A NON-AGGRESSION PACT, AND A MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NIMEIRI OF THE OAU AND TO GENERAL OBASANJO AS CHAIRMAN OF THE GOOD OFFICES COMMISSION THAT HE IS PREPARED TO RECOGNIZE THE INTERNATIONAL BOUNDARIES OF ETHIOPIA, AS DRAWN, AND TO SEEK A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE OGADEN PROBLEM.

6. THE UNITED STATES WOULD WISH TO CONSULT WITH KENYA AND ETHIOPIA AND, ASSUMING A FAVORABLE REACTION ON THEIR PART TO GENERAL SIAD'S APPROACHES, WOULD THEN BE PREPARED TO GO FORWARD WITH A MILITARY SURVEY TEAM CONCENTRATING ON THE POSSIBLE PROVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

7. THE UNITED STATES APPRECIATES GENERAL SIAD'S DESIRE
TO CONSULT WITH PRESIDENT CARTER BUT FEELS IT IS

PREMATURE AT THIS POINT TO CONSIDER THIS POSSIBILITY.
UNQUOTE. VANCE

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